



Rules and Regulations

General Rules for All Entries

- This is an “all forward motion” parade, even at the television stand. Performing groups should choreograph routines to maintain forward motion at the parade pace. The parade pace will be 3-5kms/hr, so make sure to keep up to the float ahead of you!
- All entrants must conform to the description stated in their application. Any changes must be submitted, in writing, to the Parade Selection Committee for approval. No changes will be allowed after November 10, 2023. The Parade Selection Committee reserves the right to accept or deny applications.
- Each entry **MUST BE DECORATED** and should convey the spirit of the holiday season. The parade is designed to entertain families, especially children; it is **NOT** to be used as a commercial, religious, or political forum. **NO SANTA SUITS, SANTA FIGURINES OR SIGNAGE WITH SANTA’S NAME ALLOWED.** Santa will be the last entry in the parade and will be hosted by the Parade Committee. More than one Santa confuses children.
- All entries are expected to perform courteously, in good taste and with safety in mind at all times during the formation, execution and dismissal of the parade. The Parade Committee reserves the right to withdraw any entrant or entry from the parade which does not conform to these Rules & Regulations. Any entry that has been withdrawn from the parade will not be invited back the following year.
- The Parade Marshall will be patrolling the parade route. Please pay attention to her instructions if she gives you any. Also pay attention to any instructions from the Search and Rescue team. If there are any problems along the parade route, speak to any member from the Search and Rescue team.
- The Parade Committee’s decision regarding all entrants, their eligibility, placement, and judging is final.

Safety Rules for All

- Parade participants **MAY NOT THROW** any item or items from their unit, float, or vehicle. Entry out-walkers may hand things to the audience at the curb but should not encourage the audience to leave the curb or move into the street.
- Your out-walkers **MUST** keep up with the float. The parade **WILL NOT STOP** to wait for the walkers to catch up to their float.
- Parade participants **MAY NOT** jump onto or off any float or moving vehicle and **MAY NOT** interfere with any other unit in the parade.
- Minimal age of float driver is 21 years of age with a valid driver’s license and special training/ license to drive larger vehicles as determined by SGI.
- Entry sponsors are solely responsible for the safety and conduct of all entrants in their unit.
- All vehicles larger than one ton and floats or displays **MUST SUPPLY** an out-walker by each front wheel. These out-walkers will ensure no audience member gets too close to their entry and will help ensure the audience remains on the curb.



Special Rules for Animals

- Livestock, reptiles, wild and domestic animals shall not be in the parade without specific approval by the Parade Selection Committee.
- Entrants are responsible for immediate removal of all animal wastes along the parade route and in the formation area. Entrants may not use the City garbage bins for any animal waste.
- All animals must remain on a leash for the duration of staging and the parade.

Special Rules for Floats

- A float is any fully decorated structure/vehicle that depicts the parade theme. The maximum size of a float is 10 feet wide (8 1/2 feet will fit in a traffic lane to drive to the parade), 60 feet long, and 11' 10" high (from pavement to uppermost part of float). Traffic lights and signs overhang the route; care should be taken not to exceed the height limit.
- There is a limit of two signs (that measure no more than two feet high by four feet wide) per float for any float or display.
- There must be an adult on floats where there are children. We ask that all adults, children, and walkers be in costumes pertaining to their float theme, not street clothes. SANTA HATS ARE ALLOWED as costumes.

Special Rules for

Marching/Walking Groups

- Marching/walking entries must be preceded by marchers carrying a banner or signs, which can be read easily at a distance of 50 feet. All identification signs or banners must be carried and/or displayed in such a way as to ensure they read even in snow or high wind. Young children (under 12) should not be assigned to carry identification banners.
- All units with children aged 10 or under will be expected to either station people along the parade route or have a vehicle in their entry to assist a tired marcher.

Special Rules for Groups with

Children (Aged 10 and Under)

- All children in the parade must be directly supervised by an adult.
- All units with children marching/walking will be expected to either station persons along the parade route or have a vehicle in their entry to assist a tired marcher.



Parade Line-Up

Each year we receive a high volume of special requests (for example to be placed at the beginning of the line-up, splitting entries so children can be involved with both entries, etc.) We require that all special requests be noted on the application - no verbal request will be actioned. The Parade Committee will attempt to accommodate as many requests as possible. Please keep in mind that the first several spaces are always reserved for our Grand Marshal, dignitaries, and special guests. Also note that we try to rotate units around each year.

- The final parade line-up will be sent out prior to the pre-parade meeting on Thursday, November 16 at 6:30PM. Please contact your group representative to find out what section you are in etc.
- All floats MUST have a representative attend the pre-parade safety meeting.
- Drivers must arrive to the staging area at their designated time and stay with the vehicles at all times.

Judging

Judging will be done by individuals selected by the Parade Committee. Parade entries can only compete in one award category as identified in the Entry Description section.

Each unit will be judged on:

- Enthusiasm - how active and loud the entry participants are.
- Appearance - design, construction details, general effect, and theme.
- Bonus points - creativity and cab or tow vehicle decorated.

Other Information

- Be sure to listen to the radio for changes or cancellations if it is too cold. Assume that it will be a go and be sure to have all your participants dress for the weather! Remember you could be standing around for a while before the parade starts so dress accordingly.
- There will be a barbecue for all float participants and volunteers in the Farmers' Market Square.

Emcee Coverage Commentary

- Please note that all information is subject to editing by the Parade Selection Committee and/or the commentators.